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Date: May 15, 2002

VIA FACSIMILE

Facsimile No.: (703)-308-7751

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Reference No.: 15-73To: Commissioner of Patents and
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From: Carol A. Schneider, Ph.D., J.D.

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No. of Pages: 8
(including cover page)

Serial No.: 09/977,074

Filed: October 12, 2001

For: DIAGNOSTIC INDICATOR OF THYMIC FUNCTION

Group Art Unit: 1636

Our Ref: 156857-0042

Please see attached Request for Corrected Filing Receipt and Preliminary Amendment

Original will be sent via: ☐ Mail ☐ Pouch ☐ Messenger ☐ Overnight Courier ☐ Will not be sent

Patent
Atty Docket No. 156857-0042

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**In re the Application of:**

Richard L. BOYD

Serial No.: 09/977,074**Filed:** October 12, 2001**For:** DIAGNOSTIC INDICATOR OF
THYMIC FUNCTION**Group Art Unit:** 1636**Examiner:** Not yet assigned**REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests that a corrected Filing Receipt issue for the above-referenced application. The Filing Receipt issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office does not indicate all of the previously filed applications from which priority is claimed.

The original specification (page 1 enclosed) did not contain all of the prior art information. In that regard, submitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment which corrects the first paragraph of the specification. A copy of the Filing Receipt with changes noted thereon is also attached.

On the Filing Receipt, below the list of the Applicant(s), please insert as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via facsimile ((703) 308-7751) on the date shown below to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

May 15, 2002
Date of Transmission


Janet Kornbluth

Patent
Atty Docket No. 156857-0042
Serial No.: 09/977,074

DOMESTIC PRIORITY DATA AS CLAIMED BY APPLICANT:

This application is a CIP of 09/885,268	08/01/2001
which was converted from 60/309,808	08/01/2001
which is a CIP of 09/755,965	01/05/2001
and a CIP of 09/755,646	01/05/2001
and a CIP of 09/755,983	01/05/2001
and a CIP of 09/758,910	01/10/2001
and said 09/755,965 and 09/755,646 and 09/755,983 and 09/758,910	
are all CIPS of 09/795,286	10/13/2000
and CIPS of 09/795,302	10/13/2000
and said 09/795,286 and 09/795,302	
and both CIPS of PCT/AU00/00329	04/17/2000

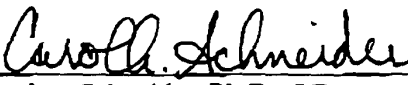
FOREIGN APPLICATIONS:

AUSTRALIA PRO745	10/13/2000
PCT/AU00/00329	04/17/2000
AUSTRALIA PP9778	04/15/1999

Applicants believe that no fee is necessary at this time. However, if any fees are associated with this request, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the necessary amount from our Deposit Account No. 09-0946.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: May 15, 2002


Carol A. Schneider, Ph.D., J.D.
Registration No. 34,923

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156857/0042

Patent

DIAGNOSTIC INDICATOR OF THYMIC FUNCTION

[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 60/309,808 filed August 1, 2001 (petition to convert to utility application filed ^{which conversion resulted in utility application U.S. Serial No. 09/885,258 filed August 5, 2001}), which is a continuation in part of each of U.S. Serial No. 09/755,965 filed January 5, 2001, U.S. Serial No. 09/755,646 filed January 5, 2001, U.S. Serial No. 09/755,983 filed January 5, 2001, and U.S. Serial No. 09/758,910 filed January 10, 2001, each of which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 09/795,286 filed October 13, 2000 which is a continuation-in-part of AU provisional application PR0745 filed October 13, 2000, and of U.S. Serial No. 09/795,302 filed October 13, 2000 which is a continuation-in-part of PCT AU00/00329 filed April 17, 2000, which is a PCT filing of AU provisional application PP9778 filed April 15, 1999, each of which is incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention is in the field of immunology. In particular, it relates to diagnosing the ability of a thymus to be reactivated by inhibition of the effects of sex steroids on the thymus.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] The thymus is arguably the major organ in the immune system because it is the primary site of production of T lymphocytes. Its role is to attract appropriate bone marrow-derived precursor cells from the blood, and induce their commitment to the T cell lineage, including the gene rearrangements necessary for the production of the T cell receptor for antigen (TCR). Associated with this is a remarkable degree of cell division to expand the number of T cells and hence increase the likelihood that every foreign antigen will be recognized and eliminated. This enormous potential diversity means that for any single antigen the body might encounter, multiple lymphocytes will be able to recognize it with varying degrees of binding strength (affinity) and respond to varying degrees.

[0004] A strange feature of T cell recognition of antigen, however, is that, unlike B cells, the TCR only recognizes peptide fragments physically associated with MHC molecules. Normally this is self MHC (i.e., non-foreign MHC) and this ability is selected for in the thymus. This process is called positive selection and is an exclusive feature of cortical epithelial cells. If



Norwood Abbey
 UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

156857-42

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
09/977,074	10/12/2001	1635	0.00	156857-0042	34	37	2

CONFIRMATION NO. 1931

29000

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FILING RECEIPT



OC00000007121994

Date Mailed: 11/27/2001

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

*THIS APPLICATION IS A CIP OF 09/885,268 08/01/2001
 WHICH WAS CONVERTED FROM 601309,804 08/01/2001*

Applicant(s)

Richard Boyd, Residence Not Provided;

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

WHICH THIS APPLICATION IS A CIP OF 09/755,965 01/05/2001
~~AND A CIP WHICH IS A CIP OF 09/755,646 01/05/2001~~
~~AND A CIP WHICH IS A CIP OF 09/755,983 01/05/2001~~
~~AND A CIP WHICH IS A CIP OF 09/758,910 01/10/2001~~
~~ARE ALL CIPS WHICH IS A CIP OF 09/795,286 10/13/2000~~
~~AND CIPS WHICH IS A CIP OF 09/795,302 10/13/2000~~
~~ARE BOTH CIPS WHICH IS A CIP OF PCT/AU00/00329 04/17/2000~~
AND SAID 09/755,965 AND 09/755,646 AND 09/755,983 AND 09/755,910 AND SAID 09/795,286 AND 09/795,302

Foreign Applications

AUSTRALIA PP9778 04/15/1999
 AUSTRALIA PR0745 10/13/2000
PCT/AU00/00329 4/17/2000

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 11/26/2001

Projected Publication Date: To Be Determined - pending completion of Missing Parts

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

** SMALL ENTITY **

Title

Diagnostic indicator of thymic function

Preliminary Class

435

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Title 35, United States Code, Section 184
Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

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NOT GRANTED

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